

28 March 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Information Services

FROM:

Chief, Information Resources Management Division

SUBJECT: Transfer of OSS Motion Picture Films to NARS

1. The OSS motion picture film collection was originally reviewed for declassification in 1973-74 under Executive Order 11652, which required records over 30 years old be reviewed for declassification. As a result of this review, 167 films were transferred to the National Archives and Records Service (NARS) in August 1975. These films were transferred as an unscheduled collection, a practice that NARS now discourages. Although there seems to be general agreement that the remaining films, approximately 157, contain little or no classified information, they have not been officially declassified or scheduled and appraised by NARS.

2. As a result of the Memorandum of Understanding signed last year by the DDA and the Archivist authorizing the transfer of declassified OSS records to NARS, IRMD personnel discussed the scheduling of these films with Ray Tagge last November and he agreed to begin the review and scheduling sometime after the first of the year.

3. With the new and somewhat urgent demand for public access to these films, we recommend that the OSS motion picture collection be reviewed now by and a representative from DO/IMS. This would allow the films to be simultaneously reviewed for both scheduling and declassification and would greatly expedite the transfer process. Once the films have been transferred to NARS, hopefully in a month or two, all requests for these films could be processed by NARS which would be consistent with the DDA/NARS MOU and the normal procedures for providing public access to permanent records.

4. has agreed to the immediate review of these films and estimates that the appraisal process should not take more than five working days. We have made some inquiries about possibly using one of OCR's movie theaters to review these films; however, they cannot guarantee that the theaters will be available when we need them. Therefore, it is recommended that the review be conducted at the Agency Archives and Records Center (AARC) where the films are stored. If agreement can be reached with DO/IMS on declassification, this joint review could start the first week in April.

for

Recommendation:

- (1) That immediate arrangements be made for our NARS liaison officer to appraise the OSS film collection.
- (2) That DO/IMS be contacted to facilitate the review of these films for declassification.

STAT

APPROVED: _____

Director of Information Services

29 MAR 1985

Date

DISAPPROVED: _____

Director of Information Services

Date

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